



AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following is a complete, marked up listing of revised claims with a status identifier in parentheses, underlined text indicating insertions, and strikethrough and/or double brackets indicating deletions.

Listing of the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) An inkjet recording ink composed of ~~a high-molecular dispersant, a~~
an encapsulated water-insoluble colorant encapsulated with a high-molecular dispersant;
a water-soluble organic solvent; and
water; and, ~~characterized in that~~
~~said a~~ water-insoluble colorant is at least one colorant selected from the group consisting of C. I. Solvent Yellow 21, C.I. Solvent Yellow 42, C.I. Solvent Yellow 79, C.I. Solvent Yellow 82, C.I. Solvent Yellow 83:1, C.I. Solvent Yellow 88 and C.I. Solvent Yellow 151, at least one colorant selected from the group consisting of C.I. Solvent Red 8, C.I. Solvent Red 49, C.I. Solvent Red 83:1, C.I. Solvent Red 91, C.I. Solvent Red 127 and C.I. Solvent Red 218, at least one colorant selected from the group consisting of C.I. Solvent Black 3, C.I. Solvent Black 27, C.I. Solvent Black 29 and C.I. Solvent Black 45, or at least one colorant selected from the group consisting of C.I. Solvent Blue 25, C.I. Solvent Blue 38, C.I. Solvent Blue 44, C.I. Solvent Blue 67 and C.I. Solvent Blue 70; and
wherein said high-molecular dispersant is a block copolymer comprising at least one hydrophobic block and at least one hydrophilic block, and said at least one hydrophobic block and at least one hydrophilic block have been obtained by polymerizing vinyl ethers as

monomers, respectively; wherein said at least one hydrophilic block in said high-molecular dispersant is formed of an anionic vinyl ether.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously Presented) ~~An~~The ink jet recording ink according to claim 1, wherein said at least one hydrophilic block in said high-molecular dispersant is formed of at least two blocks consisting of a block formed of a nonionic vinyl ether and a block formed of an anionic vinyl ether.

5. (Previously Presented) ~~An~~The inkjet recording ink according to claim 1, wherein said high-molecular dispersant comprises at least three block consisting of a block formed of one of hydrophobic vinyl ethers, a block formed of one of nonionic hydrophilic vinyl ethers and a block formed of one of anionic hydrophilic vinyl ethers.

6. (Previously Presented) ~~An~~The inkjet recording ink according to claim 1, wherein said block copolymer has a number average molecular weight of from 500 to 20,000,000.

7. (Previously Presented) ~~An~~The inkjet recording ink according to- claim 1, wherein particles of said encapsulated water-insoluble colorant dispersed by said high-molecular dispersant have an average particle size not greater than 80 nm.

8. (Previously Presented) An inkjet recording method, which is conducted by applying energy to an ink to cause said ink to fly onto a recording medium, wherein said ink is an ink as defined in claim 1.

9. (Previously Presented) ~~An~~The inkjet recording method according to claim 8, wherein said energy is thermal energy.

10. (Previously Presented) ~~An~~The inkjet recording method according to claim 8, wherein said recording medium has an ink-receiving coating layer on at least one of opposite sides thereof.

11. (Previously Presented) An ink cartridge provided with an ink reservoir with an ink stored therein, wherein said ink is an ink as defined in claim 1.

12. (Previously Presented) An inkjet recording system provided with an ink cartridge, which is provided with an ink reservoir with an ink stored therein, and also with a recording head portion for ejecting said ink, wherein said ink is an ink as defined in claim 1.

13. (New) The ink jet recording ink according to claim 1, wherein the anionic vinyl ether has a carboxyl group as a side chain.

14. (New) An ink jet recording ink, comprising
an encapsulated water-insoluble colorant encapsulated with a high-molecular dispersant, characterized in that said high-molecular dispersant is a block copolymer including at least three blocks, wherein said three blocks consist of a first block formed of

one of hydrophobic vinyl ethers, a second block formed of one of nonionic hydrophilic vinyl ethers and a third block formed of one of anionic hydrophilic vinyl ethers;

a water-soluble organic solvent;

water; and

a water-insoluble colorant is at least one colorant selected from the group consisting of C. I. Solvent Yellow 21, C.I. Solvent Yellow 42, C.I. Solvent Yellow 79, C.I. Solvent Yellow 82, C.I. Solvent Yellow 83:1, C.I. Solvent Yellow 88 and C.I. Solvent Yellow 151, at least one colorant selected from the group consisting of C.I. Solvent Red 8, C.I. Solvent Red 49, C.I. Solvent Red 83:1, C.I. Solvent Red 91, C.I. Solvent Red 127 and C.I. Solvent Red 218, at least one colorant selected from the group consisting of C.I. Solvent Black 3, C.I. Solvent Black 27, C.I. Solvent Black 29 and C.I. Solvent Black 45, or at least one colorant selected from the group consisting of C.I. Solvent Blue 25, C.I. Solvent Blue 38, C.I. Solvent Blue 44, C.I. Solvent Blue 67 and C.I. Solvent Blue 70.

15. (New) The ink jet recording ink according to claim 14, wherein said anionic hydrophilic vinyl ethers have a carboxyl group as a side chain.

16. (New) The ink jet recording ink according to claim 14, wherein said block copolymer is sequentially formed of said first block, said second block and said third block, further wherein said first block is formed of a hydrophobic polyvinyl ether, said second block is formed of a nonionic hydrophilic polyvinyl ether and said third block is formed of an anionic hydrophilic polyvinyl ether.